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- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): DKFZ [DE/DE]; Deutsches Krebsforschungszentrum, Stiftung des öffentlichen Rechts, Im Neuenheimer Feld 280, 69120 Heidelberg (DE).
- (72) Inventors; and
  - **Inventors/Applicants** (for US only): **MOLLEN-**HAUER, Jan [DE/DE]; Hermann-Löns-Weg 26, 69118 Heidelberg (DE). END, Caroline [DE/DE]; Toräckerstrasse 5, 68165 Mannheim (DE). BLAICH, Stephanie [DE/DE]; Hegenichstrasse 15, 69124 Heidelberg (DE). BERGMANN, Gaby [DE/DE]; Hauptstrasse 29, 69117 Heidelberg (DE). RENNER, Marcus [DE/DE]; Goethestrasse 23, 69181 Leimen (DE). LYER, Stefan [DE/DE]; Schlüsselweg 4, 69122 Heidelberg (DE). WITTIG, Rainer [DE/DE]; Burgstrasse 47, 69121 Heidelberg (DE). **POUSTKA**, Annemarie [AT/DE]; Ladenburgerstrasse 41, 69120 Heidelberg (DE). BIKKER, Floris [NL/NL]; Vlierboomstraat 57, NL-3552 BP Utrecht (NL). LIGTEN-BERG, Antoon [NL/NL]; W. Andriessenlaan 30, NL-1187 HC Amstelveen (NL). NIEUW-AMERONGEN, Arie

[NL/NL]; G. van Nijenrodestraat 136, NL-3621 GM Breukelen (NL). **VEERMAN, Enno** [NL/NL]; W. van den Bergstraat 27, NL-1132 TZ Volendam (NL).

- (74) Agents: HUHN, Michael et al.; Isenbruck, Bösl, Hörschler, Wichmann, Huhn, Theodor-Heuss-Anlage 12, 68165 Mannheim (DE).
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(57) Abstract: Disclosed is the use of DMBT1, or of the nucleic acid encoding it, for the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of a patient suffering from a disease caused by an agent, which possesses at least one accessible sulphate and/or at least one accessible phosphate group, uses of DMBT1 as a diagnostic for diagnosing the susceptibility of an individual to sulphate or phosphate groups, as well as methods for diagnosis, prophylaxis or treatment of diseases caused by an agent which possesses at least one accessible sulphate and/or at least one accessible phosphate group.

